

## **Home Study End-of-the-Year Assessment Vermont Licensed Teacher Letter Expectations**

It is expected that the teacher will review the student's curriculum and the student's content knowledge and/or skills in each subject area of the minimum course of study. An assessment must include a face-to-face meeting with the child. An individual progress assessment for each student must reflect whether or not the student is making progress commensurate with his/her age and ability in each subject area of the minimum course of study. The student should demonstrate, during the face-to-face meeting, his/her skill in reading, writing, and math unless the teacher is confident of the child's abilities in these areas based on prior contact with the child or current review of the student's work.

The letter should:

1. Include the child's name and age and the name(s) and address(es) of parent(s).
2. Include the teacher's name and address.
3. Include the date of assessment and school year being assessed.
4. **Students with or suspected of having a disability:** For students with disabilities, the home study statute requires an adapted curriculum to assist the child in making progress commensurate with the student's age and abilities in each subject area. The adapted curriculum should also factor in any limitations resulting from the disability. The teacher should indicate that he/she has been made aware of an existing disability and of adaptations that were made to the minimum course of study. If the teacher does not see progress commensurate with the child's age and ability, a disability may be emerging or it may have gone undetected. The teacher should indicate whether or not he/she has concerns with this lack of progress and that he/she has addressed these concerns with the parents. This is an important part of an assessment and the presence of a disability or suspected disability does not mean that the child cannot be homeschooled. The Department of Education provides technical assistance to parents of homeschoolers with disabilities.
5. Describe the method(s) of assessment. They may include results of on-the-spot testing, review of standardized test results, review of the portfolio of the student's work, demonstration of skills, etc.
6. The teacher should render his/her professional opinion as to whether progress commensurate with the child's age and ability was made in each area. Please describe this progress in terms of skills and/or content knowledge. Each area should contain some specific information regarding topics learned or skills practiced by the student during the school year. This does not mean that the teacher needs to restate the curriculum. If the teacher has concerns, he/she should identify the concerns to the parent and discuss ways to improve progress.
7. Include the teacher's signature and the date of letter.

For the teacher's reference, the eight areas of the minimum course of study are:

- (1) Basic communication skills- reading and writing (language arts)
- (2) Basic communication skills-use of numbers (math)
- (3) English, American, and other literature
- (4) Citizenship, history, and government in Vermont and the United States
- (5) The natural sciences
- (6) Physical education
- (7) Comprehensive health education
- (8) The fine arts